

## UNITED KINGDOM AND-CALIFORNIA ANNOUNCEMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE & CLEAN ENERGY COLLABORATION

### Mission Statement

The environmental and economic consequences of climate change and our dependency on fossil fuels compel both California (CA) and the United Kingdom (UK) to commit to urgent action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote low carbon technologies. CA and the UK recognize the linkages between climate change, energy security, human health and robust economic growth. Working together, California and the UK commit to build upon current efforts, share experiences, find new solutions, and work to educate the public on the need for aggressive action to address climate change and promote energy diversity.

We commit to work to:

- ✓ Evaluate and implement **market-based mechanisms** that spur innovation.
  - The UK will share best practices on emissions trading and lessons learned in Europe. CA and the UK will also explore the potential for linkages between our market-based mechanisms that will better enable the carbon market(s) to accelerate the transition to a low carbon economy.
- ✓ Deepen our understanding of the **economics** of climate change.
  - Both CA and the UK have efforts underway to quantify the economic impacts of climate change, mitigation efforts, and adaptation strategies. We will share results from these on-going and emerging studies. In particular, we must understand how best to model the impact of climate change emissions reduction policies and adaptation measures on regional and national economies.
- ✓ Collaborate on **technology research**.
  - We will coordinate our energy sector efforts to switch to clean energy technologies, promote green buildings, and increase the use of efficiency and renewable energy technologies. We will share information regarding our efforts to reduce emissions from the transportation sector, including California's emission standards and hydrogen highway and the United Kingdom's experience with a renewable fuels standard and clean coal technologies.
- ✓ Enhance linkages between our **scientific communities**.
  - Enhanced coordination will help us understand the impacts of climate change at a regional level, potential mitigation strategies and adaptation measures, as well as acceptable levels at which to stabilise emissions. There are a number of efforts to build on, most notably at the UK Hadley Centre and the Virtual Climate Center in CA.

## **Background**

Prime Minister Tony Blair and Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger have both already committed to aggressive policies to address the impacts of climate change. Leadership is vital given the potential threats of climate change - degradation to our water supply and air quality, flooding dangers, health consequences, and loss of valuable natural resources. But there are also economic opportunities in taking action, in implementing market-based solutions that will drive the innovation needed to build a low carbon economy.

New policies are critical if significant cuts in emissions and development of new technologies are to be delivered. Governor Schwarzenegger has called for a reduction of emissions in California to 2000 levels by 2010 and 1990 levels by 2020. The UK has put in place a wide range of policies that aim to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 60% from 1990 levels by 2050. Market-led policies that promote cleaner energy technologies will be needed to meet these targets. These technologies will be key drivers in our efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate the adverse consequences of climate change.

## **Next Steps**

Even with our successes, there is more to be done to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare our environment and our economy for a clean energy revolution. Together and in coordination with business and environmental leaders and other stakeholders we can take actions that protect the planet, are good for the economy, and provide greater energy security and diversity. This should include working with China, India and other rapidly growing economies to develop and deploy clean energy technologies in those countries that will reduce worldwide greenhouse gas emissions.

We commit to an exchange of delegations to achieve these goals.